FREE GRATIS

TRI-LINGUAL

IRONBOUND VOICES

Vol. 17 No. 4 Winter 1995



Peace Poster Winners

Take It One Step At A Time

It's true that sometimes life is full
Of trying circumstances.
And sometimes we must struggle
For just minimal advances.
Despite events that slow us down
And magnify our worries.
We must learn that progress is
A word that seldom hurries.
To try to grasp the total pictures
Is a strong temptation.
Often we attept too much
And add to our frustration.
Laying out before us
All the things that must be done
May be harder than to focus
On a single one.
Don't approach so many tasks
That all your hopes are gone.
A single step will lead you to
Another later on.

by Bruce B. Wilmer

Free Tax Help Available

If you need help filling out your tax returns, you can make an appointment for free assistance at the Ironbound Community Corporation, 95 Fleming Ave., on **Saturday, February 25**. You must call ahead to make an appointment: 344-7210.

Loan Counselling Office Opens

New Jersey Citizen Action has opened a Loan Counselling Office at the Ironbound Community Corporation, 432 Lafayette St., to help low and middle income first time home buyers get access to low interest loans. There is no charge for the service. For more information and to schedule an appointment call 1-800-656-9637 from 9 AM - 5 PM.

Good To Know

* **New Jersey Self-Help Clearinghouse:** Helping people help themselve through Mutual Aid Self-Help Groups. 1-800-367-8274

* A free brochure called **"New Jersey Insurance Facts"** explains automobile, homeowners, commerical and workers compensation insurance in an easy-to-understand manner. It also has a phone directory of helpful consumers numbers related to insurance. Call (908) 687-2828, the New Jersey Insurance News Service, to get free copies.

* Do you know someone who is blind? **Talking Books** are available free from the N.J. Library for the Blind and Handicapped. Call 1-800-792-8322. They also have large print books.

Freeholders Dump On Newark Again

The Essex County Freeholders ignored the concerns of Newark residents and voted 8 to 0 to approve a contract to import garbage from Morris County to burn in the incinerator.

"If you approve this, you are breaking a promise made to Newark residents," said Vic De Luca, one of many members of the **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste (ICATW)** who spoke at the Jan. 10, 1995 meeting. "We were told that this would **never be a regional facility**. It would be for Essex County garbage only."

How concerned where the Freeholders about Newark residents? Freeholder Parlavecchio said he had "forgotten" to send the ICATW, and other interested community groups, notices about earlier meetings of the Solid Waste Committee which was working on the contract, which residents wanted to attend. A five page letter written by Lisa Hendricks Richardson, a lawyer with the Rutgers Environmental Law Clinic, detailing Newark residents' concerns and asking questions about the contract with Morris County, was not even answered by the lawyer for Essex County, Stephen Edelstein.

The new contract says that Essex will get 250,000 tons of garbage a year from Morris County. This adds up to more garbage than the incinerator was supposed to burn each year. **ICATW** members and supporters criticized the contract because Essex County is liable if there are any problems, and because Morris County will pay only $59 per ton to use the incinerator, while Essex county pays $110 per ton. Morris County will never have to build a landfill for ash, and Essex County will join and pay for a court fight against the Department of Environmental Protection & Energy (DEPE), if they ever order Morris County to build a landfill.

"Not only are we getting hit with pollution every day from this incinerator, but we are getting nothing in exchange," said June Kruszewski, from ICATW. "We don't get a tax cut, even though our property values and health suffer. In fact, we are getting less from the County. They just cut bus service for our senior citizens, the only way they could get to the store to go shopping."



Mariarosa Da Costa speaks at the Freeholder meeting opposing the contract with Morris County.

A number of ICATW members and supporters talked about the fact that the incinerator is located in a poor immigrant community. "It isn't right for a rich white community to dump its garbage on a poor community of minority residents," said Madelyn Hoffman, from the Grassroots Environmental Organization (GREO).

At the meeting, all the Freeholders described the original contract with American Ref-Fuel to build and run the garbage incinerator as "one of the worst agreements" the County has ever made.

Ironbound residents remember standing in front of the Freeholders before the incinerator was built, and presenting clear arguments about what was wrong with the contract. But the Freeholders ignored the residents, and signed the terrible contract anyway.

"If you agree that the contract with American Ref-Fuel is a bad contract, why don't you do something about it?" said Joe Nardone, from the ICATW. "Get some lawyers to work on it, and find a way to get out of it."

County Executive Treffinger has said that he wants to renegotiate the original contract with American Ref-Fuel, because it is so bad.

A number of speakers talked about the fact

cont. on page.6

This Is A Clean Up?

This is an edited copy of a letter by Joe Nardone, Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste, which appeared in the Star Ledger on Jan. 2, 1995.

Dear Editor,

On Nov. 2, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducted a community update for residents of Ironbound concerning the status of the clean-up of the Diamond Alkali Superfund site on Lister Ave. At this meeting, residents learned that the EPA and the guilty company have no intention of remediating the site to a usable, tax-ratable, restored lot, but of only "capping the site" and biannually testing it until "improved technology" allows for further decontamination." What is meant by "capping" is simply covering the site with an asphalt top like a parking lot.

Not only was the EPA trying to foster this preposterous idea on the residents, its officials also were intending to take off-site dioxin contaminated material stored at the site, and spread it over the site before capping, rather than remove the material entirely.

The off-site material is the dioxin-contaminated material which was vaccuumed from the streets and other areas of the neighborhood during the initial clean up after the dioxin contamination was discovered. It has been stored at the site in a 48 box car repository, stacked four cars high, for more than 10 years, because no one knew what to do with it.

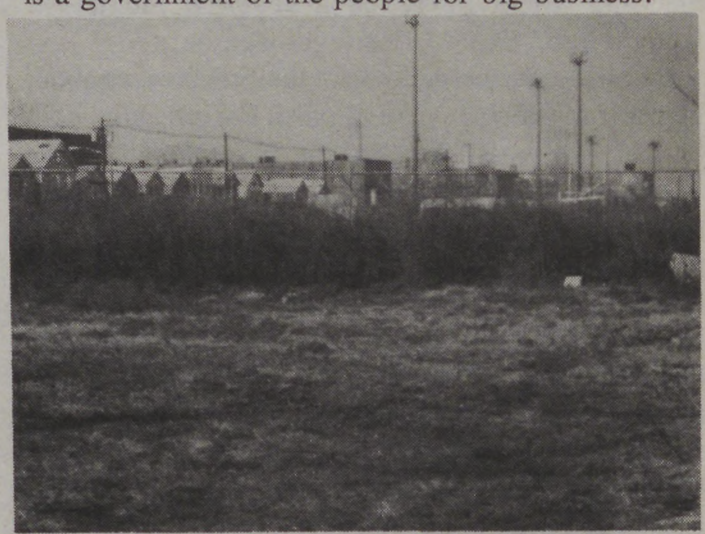
What this means to the residents of Ironbound and Newark follows:

* The Diamond Alkali Superfund site will remain a superfund site blighting the neighborhood with no definite clean up schedule proposed.

* The City of Newark and all its residents lose a tax ratable lot which could be returned to the tax rolls if a complete and thorough site clean up is done.

Since its discovery in 1983, the Diamond Alkali Superfund site has been tested, surveyed, and re-tested, without any clean up actually being done. For 10 years, it has remained a blight in the neighborhood. Now after 10 years, when something is finally being done to clean up the polluted Passaic River, the best idea put forth is to leave the site as a capped superfund with very little hope of complete site clean up.

This proposal shows the low regard, if not indifference, the chemical industry has toward the people it exploits and how our federal government is a government of the people for big business.



More Broken Promises On the Ironbound Pool

After a rally on the steps of City Hall last summer, Ironbound residents were told that construction of the Ironbound Pool would begin this October. Is anyone surprised that it didn't happen?

"There have been so many broken promises about construction. This is just the latest delay," said Arnold Cohen, fromt he **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste** (ICATW).

Al Zach, Newark City Engineer, told ICATW members that bids are due to go out soon. "If the community was not pressuring to make sure the job gets done, it would be even slower," said Fred Linhares, from ICATW.

Residents have held yearly rallies to protest the delays in building the pool and cleaning up the playing fields at the Ironbound Stadium, which are contaminated with toxic chemcials.

Peace Project Poster Winners!

Students from several different schools had winning posters in the **1994 Peace Poster Contest** sponsored by the **Ironbound Peace Education Project.**

Each fall, the Ironbound Peace Education Project (IPEP) sponsors the Poster Contest to encourage students, from first grade to high school, to think about world peace and how to achieve it. This year's winning students (shown on the cover) were: Vito Irene from St. Francis Xavier School; Diana Costa, Andrea Frankiewicz and Susana Pereira from St. Lucy Fillippini Academy; Maurice Watson from Academy of St. Benedict: Lorely Cruz and Diana Dos Santos from Good Counsel Grammar School; Tahiyyah Muhammad from Harriet Tubman School; Janine and Janice Delaney from Oliver St. School; Stephanie Lobato from Wilson Ave. School; Asshaborrah Staggers, Noel Muniz and Robert Telliz from Good Counsel High School; Susan Ann Ross from St. Casimir's School; and Lenzie Wilson from Project Link School.

At a spaghetti dinner held on Dec. 3 at St. Stephan's Church, the winners received certificates and prizes from the Dr. & Mrs. Bernstein Scholarship Fund. The Fund was set up to honor the momeory of the Bernsteins. Dr. Bernstein practiced in Ironbound for over 40 years. He and his wife were active in groups working for peace and social justice.

Those who came enjoyed the delicious spaghetti dinner made by Roni Faulkner, and served by a team of volunteers. Nancy Hershotter, a member of the Clearwater Singers, led Spanish and English singing. Texeira's Bakery donated a beautiful cake, which said "Peace on Earth" on the top.

The winning posters were on display at the Van Buren St. branch of the Newark Public Library during January and February.



Hearing & Rally Point Out Dioxin Dangers

Members of the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste (ICATW) testified at a hearing about dioxin held in Newark on Dec. 13 by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The hearings followed the release of a new EPA study which says dioxin "is likely to present a cancer hazard in humans...and can result in a number of noncancer health effects." (see last issue of Ironbound Voices)

ICATW members joined in a rally held before the hearing, organized by the Grassroots Environmental Organization (GREO), to protest the fact that although more information about the dangers of dioxin is available, not much is being done to decrease dioxin. In fact, the opposite is true.

Fernando Linhares, representing ICATW at the hearing, said he is concerned that residents in the Ironbound section of Newark are subject to pollution from dioxins because of the garbage incinerator, and because of the inadequate clean up of the Diamond Shamrock plant.

The country's highest levels of dioxin contamination were found near the Diamond Shamrock plant in the Island section of Ironbound in 1983. The EPA now plans to "cap" the site at Lister Ave., which means to cover it with asphalt, and leave it sit where it is.

Rich Get Richer, Poor Get Poorer

In the United States, and overseas, the rich are getting richer, the poor are getting poorer, and the people in the middle are becoming less and less secure about their future. And this is all happening during a period of economic growth.

Labor Secretary Robert Reich spoke recently about widening gaps in income, health care, and retirement benefits (pensions) between people with the most and least incomes in this country.

Some facts which show this are:

* In 1983, the richest 0.5% owned more than 45% of the nation's privately held net wealth.

* In 1986, the top 1% of families owned about 53% of all income-producing wealth.

* In 1986, the top 10% of families owned 83% of all income-producing wealth. The remaining 17% of all wealth was shared among the other 90% of American families.

* The welathiest 2% of Americans saw their incomes rise by 75% in the 1980's.

* In 1983, 60% of all U.S. families owned less than $5000 in assets. Half owned $2300 in assets or less.

* The United States has the highest incidence of poverty in the industrialized worled, with exceptionally high infant and preschool child poerty.

* In 1986, 2 million adults were poor even though they worked a full-time job.

Although wages are high in the United States, there are other "quality of life" issues where the United States is lacking:

* The U.S. has the lowest level of job security of workers. (Other industrialized countries prohibit arbitrary plant closings and firings).

* The U.S. has the lowest percentage of workers in unions, and the lowest percentage who vote.

* U.S. workers have the greatest chance of becoming unemployed without adequate unemployment insurance or medical insurance.

* The U.S. has the worst ranking for life expectancy and infant mortality.

* The U.S. has the highest murder rate in the world.

These facts result from "private" policy choices made by managers of large corporations and from "public" policy choices made by elected officials who are heavily influenced by managers of private corporations.

It is unusual to find information about income and wealth in print. Perhaps this is because 23 corporations control most newspapers, magazines, television books and motion pictures, according to the Dean of Journalism at the University of California. 7 years ago there were 50 corporations controlling media.

This will all change whenever the American people decide it must change. Citizens hold the power to give, withohold, or take away corporate charters. Citizens have the authority to tax. And citizens have the right to advocate change openly, the right of free speech, and a free press. These things are all that is needed, if combined with vision, will courage, organization, and persistence.

These are excerpts from 2 articles in Environment & Health Weekly.

Freeholders Dump On Newark,

continued from p. 3

that Ironbound is the most polluted neighborhood in the state, with many resulting health problems.

"What will you tell people who live near the incinerator, where more and more mercury and dioxin are coming out? We saved you a few pennies on your taxes. Too bad if you have cancer," said one speaker.

The public will have another chance to testify about the garbage incinerator at a hearing with the Department of Environmental Protection Energy. For more information on when and where the next meetings are contact ICATW at 589-4668.

Will New Housing Policies Mean More Homeless?

President Clinton's proposals to "reform" HUD are worrying many residents of low income housing. At a recent meeting, sponsored by the HUD Tenant Coalition, in Newark, HUD officials said that the Section 8 program as it exists will be discontinued. Residents will receive "housing vouchers". According to HUD officials, these vouchers will only be good for 2 years, after which families would go onto a waiting list for housing assistance in the city where they live.

Federal money will be given to the states, which will give it to cities, in "block grants". State and city officials will decide how much money to give for direct welfare assistance vs. housing assistance vs. any other programs. There will be few or no federal standards or regulations to decide how this is done.

Another problem, already experienced by many tenants who have housing vouchers, is who will accept them. Many landlords will not accept housing vouchers (and they cannot be forced to). Another question is how much the vouchers would be for, and whether it will be enough to afford area rents.

Concerned residents should contact their Congressional representatives now. For more information call Nancy Zak, 344-7210.



Young people choose a treat during the monthly Saturday morning programs being run by the Aspen Riverpark Tenants Association, working with St. Stephan's Church, and First Congregational United Church of Christ in Westfield, N.J.

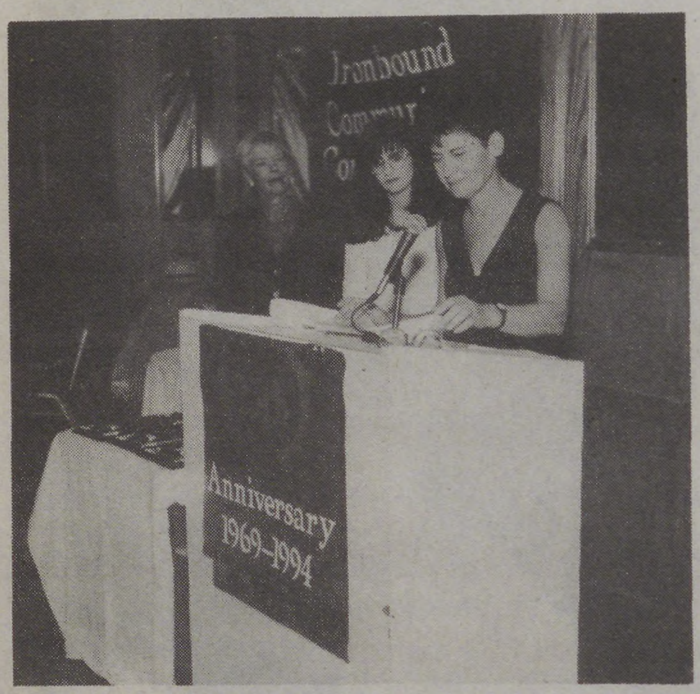
NO EASY WALK
by Helen Stummer

This is an excellent book of photographs showing life in the Central Ward of Newark. Copies can be ordered for $19.95 from Temple University Press. Call (215) 204-8787.

ICC Gets Housing Award

In November, 1994, the Ironbound Community Corporation received a grant from the Catholic Church's Campaign for Human Development for its work organizing low income tenants in order to improve living conditions in their buildings. In accepting the award from Archbishop McCarrick, Nancy Zak said, "This project means hope for many low income tenants."

ICC Celebrates!



Maria Durkin gives a welcome in Spanish, while Irene D'Oliveira and Rev. Lin Powell look on. Over 300 friends and supporters attended the Ironbound Community Corporation's 25th Anniversary Dinner Dance.



Sister Cathy Daly, Director of Social Ministry for Catholic Community Services, was one of the award recipients. Above, she enjoys dinner with some of her friends.



Elsie Ferreirinha (seated far right), Joel Agency, one of the award recipients, enjoys dinner.



Madelyn Hoffman enjoys dancing the Limbo dance as part of the night's festivities.

ICC Celebrates!



Jeannette (Jenny) Ravello, former parent with the ICC, who now works in the Mayor's Office, reads a proclamation from Mayor Sharpe James. ICC also received congratulations from other public officials.



Grace Hixon, Home Friends Program, and Isabel Pascual, Adult Education Program, welcome guests.



Vic De Luca, former director of ICC, received an award. He is shown here with (left to right) June Kruszewski, ICC Board Pesident, Joe Della Fave, current ICC Executive Director, and Roni Faulkner, ICC Board member. Others who received awards were A. Zachary Yamba, President of Essex County College, Cathy McFarland, Executive Officer of the Victoria Foundation, and Arnold Cohen, leaving ICC after 21 years of service.



Staff, parents and friends of the Ironbound Childrens' Center enjoy the dinner.

Vencedores do Projecto Sobre A Paz

Alunos de várias escolas foram os vencedores do **Concurso de Cartazes do Projecto Sobre a Paz** organizado pelo "Ironbound Peace Education Project (IPEP).

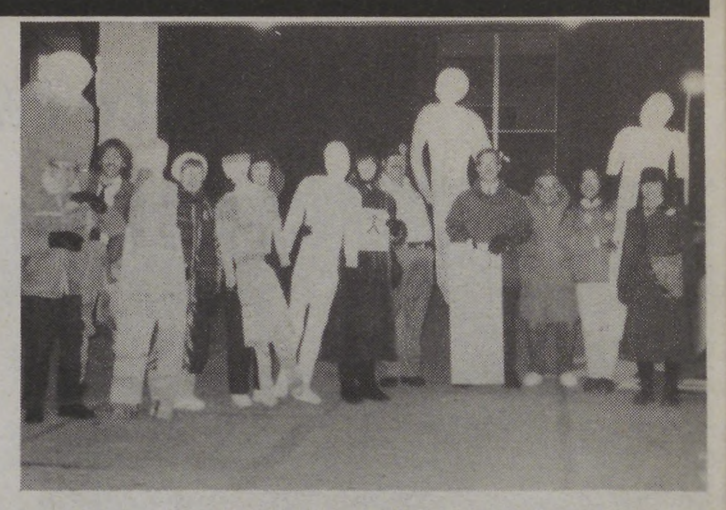
No início de cada ano escolar, o Ironbound Peace Education Project organiza um concurso de cartazes encorajando os jovens a pensar sobre paz mundial.

Este ano, os alunos vencedores (mostra no coberta desta revista) foram: Vito Irene da St. Francis Xavier School; Diana Costa, Andrea Frankiewicz, e Susana Pereira da St. Lucy Fillippini Academy; Maurice Watson da Academy of St. Benedict; Lorely Cruz e Diana Dos Santos da Good Counsel Grammar School; Tahiyyah Muhammad da Harriet Tubman School; Janine e Janice Delaney da Oliver St. School; Stephanie Lobato da Wilson Ave. School; Asshaboorah Staggers, Noel Muniz e Robert Telliz da Good Counsel High School; Susan Ann Ross da St. Casimir's School; e Lenzie Wilson da Project Link School.

No decorrer de um jantar de "spaghetti" realizado em Dezembro 3 da Igreja de St. Stephen, os vencedores receberam diplomas e prémios monetários oferecidos pela Fundação "Dr. & Mrs. Bernstein." Este fundo escolar foi instituído em honra da memoria do Dr. e de Mrs. Bernstein que, durante mais de 40 anos, trabalharam no Ironbound e foram activos adeptos de paz e da justiça social.

Aqueles que estiveram presentes, deliciarma-se com um magnífico jantar, e manifestaram-se inspirados pelos temas expostos nos cartazes e desenhados pelos alunos. Roni Faulkner dirigui um grupo de voluntários na cozinha, e a Padaria Teixeira doou um delicioso bolo.

Os cartazes vencedores estiveram expostos na Biblioteca Pública da Van Buren St. durante os meses de Janeiro e Fevereiro.



Audiência e Demonstração Apontam Perigos de Dióxinas

Membros do grupo ICATW (Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste) apresentaram o seu testemunho durante uma audiência sobre dioxinas realizada em Newark no passado dia 13 de Dezembro e promovida pela Agência de Protecção ao Meio Ambiente (EPA). A audiência seguiu-se à publicação de um novo estudo da EPA sobre dioxinas e que diz "é provável que seja uma causa do cancro em seres humanos...e pode resultar numa série de doenças não cancerosas."

Os membros do ICATW juntaram-se a um grupo de gente vinda de outros pontos do estado e que procedia e uma demonstração protestando o facto de que, apesar de existir mais informação sobre os perigos das dioxinas, pouco ou nada está sendo feito para diminuir a sua quantidade. Na realidade, verifica-se o contrário.

Fernando Linhares, representando o Comité do Ironbound Contra Produtos Tóxicos (ICATW), afirmou estar preocupado porque os residentes do bairro do Ironbound em Newark estáo expostos à poluição de dioxinas emanadas do incinerador de lixos, e por causa da deficiente limpeza feita nas antigas instalaçóes da fábrica Diamond Shamrock. Os mais altos níveis de contaminação por dioxinas foram encontrados em 1983 na zona do Ironbound. A agência EPA planeia "selar" o local daquela fábrica na Lister Avenue, o que significa cobri-lo com asfalto, e deixar tudo ficar onde está.

Os Executivos Do Condado Mandam Despejar Em Newark

Os executivos do condado de Essex ignoraram a oposição dos residentes de Newark e votaram 8 contra 0 para a que se aprovasse um contrato para importar lixo do condado de Morris para ser queimado no incinerador.

"Se vocês aprovam isso estão a quebrar a promessa que fizeram aos residentes de Newark," disse Vic De Luca, um dos muitos membros do **Comité do Ironbound Contra Lixos Tóxicos (ICATW)** que falou na reunião de 10 de Janeiro de 1995." Disseram-nos que nunca seríamos uma faciliade regional, que seria únicamente para o lixo do condado de Essex."

As opiniões dos residentes pareceram ser de pouca importancia para os executivos que disseram foi esquecimento não terem notificado a ICATW e outros grupos interessados da comunidade das reuniões iniciais do Comité que estava a elaborar o contrato do lixo sólido. Uma carta com 5 páginas, scrita por Lisa Hendricks Richardson, que é advogada pela clinica de lie do ambiente a qual defende os interesses dos residentes de Newark, não teve resposta do advogado Stephen Edelstein, do condado de Essex.

O contrato diz que Essex vai receber 250.000 toneladas de lixo do condado de Morris anualmente. Isto é uma quantidade superior à que o incinerador era suposto queimar por ano. Os membros da ICATW e os sues adeptos criticaram o contrato porque o condado de Essex tem de assumir todas as responsabilidades se houver problemas, e porque o condado de Morris só pagara $59 por tonelada, enquanto que o condado de Essex paga $110 por tonelada pelo uso do incinerador. O condado de Morris não terá de abrir uma lixeira e o condado de Essex tera de se juntar aquele e pagar por uma questão no tribunal contra a DEPE se o condado de Morris for obrigado a construir uma lixeira.

"Não só estamos diáriamente expostos à poluíçao deste incinerador, mas não nos dão nada por isso," disse June Kruszewski." Não dão nada ao nosso bairro em troca. Não nos baixam as taxas apesar do valor da propriedade bem como a nossa saude sofrerem com isso. Na verdade dão-nos menos. O condado acaba de cortar o serviço de autocarros para a terceira-idade a unica maneira que estas pessoas teem de ir as compras."

Vários membros e adeptos da ICATW comentaram o facto desta facilidade estar localizada numa comunidade de imigrantes pobres. "Não está certo que uma comunidade branca afluente atire com o lixo para uma comunidade de residentes das minorias," disse Madelyn Hoffman, da Organização do Ambiente Grassroots (GREO).

Todos os executivos do condado falaram do contrato original com a American Ref-Fuel para construir e operar o incinerador de lixo como "um dos piores que o condado jamais autorizou." Residentes do Ironbound podem lembrar-se de emfrentarem o conselho dos executivos **antes** de construção do incinerador e apresentarem argumentos válidos acerca do que estava errado com o contrato do incinerador de lixo. Mas os executivos do condado ignoraram os residentes e assinaram o contrato de qualquer maneira.

"Se concordas que o contrato com a Aemrican Ref-Fuel é um mau contrato porque não fazes algo?" disse Joe Nardone da ICATW. "Procura advogados para trabalharem neste contrato e encontrar uma maneira de sair dele."

O executivo Treffinger disse que tenciona renegociar o contraco original com a American Ref-Fuel.

Varios oradores facaram acerca do facto do Ironbound ser o bairro mais poluído do estado.

"Que podes dizer aos habitantes da área do incinerador, do qual saem o mercurio e a dioxina? Poupamos uns centavos. Mas infelizamente tens cancro," disse um oradores.

O publico terá outra oportunidade para depor acerca do incinrador do lixo numa sessão publica do Departamento do Ambiente e Energia (DEPE). Para imformação de quando e onde farão essa sessão contactem ICATW: 589-4668.



ICC Celebrou o Seu 25 Aniversário

Quase 300 amigos e contribuidores do Ironbound Community Corporation estiveram presente no 21 de Outubro de 1994 em que celebraram o seu 25 Aniversário. A celebração foi um jantar e baile que tomou parte no restaurante do Mediterranean Manor. Outros que não puderam participar mandaram felitaçóes, ou pagaram para ter os seus anuncios na revista de lembraça dessa noite. Aqueles que vieram desfrutaram de ver outros que foram parte da corporação por muitos anos, tivieram um maravilhoso jantar, e dançaram toda noite. O ICC recebeu distinguidos premios do Congressista Menendez, Presidente de Cámara Municipal Sharpe James, e Conselheiro Martinez.

No photo encima, Arnold Cohen recebeu um premio por 21 anos de trabalhar com Ironbound Community Corporation. Outros quem receberam premios foram A. Zachary Yamba, Presidente do Colégio do Condado de Essex; Freira Cathy Daly, Directora do Ministério Social dos Serviços da Comunidade Católica; Vic De Luca, Director Exeuctivo anterior do ICC; Cathy McFarland, Oficial da Fundação Victoria; e Elsie Ferreirinha, um dos donos do Agência de Seguros Joel, quem ha dado o seu apoio ao ICC em varias maneiras nos passados anos.

Gratis

O Ironbound Community Corporation na 95 Fleming Ave., vai haver assisténcia dos Contabilistas para Interesses do Público para preencher as formas das taxas. E no sábado, dia 25 de Fevereiro de 1995. É necessario fazer primeiro um apontamento.

O Consultorio De Empréstimos Abre

New Jersey Citizen Action (Acção de Cidadáo de New Jersey) já abriu o Consultório de Empréstimos no Ironbound Community Corporation no 432 Lafayette St., para ajudar pessoas com baixo ou meio ordenados conseguir juros baixos para comprar uma casa pela primeira vez. Este serviçio é gratis. Para mais informaçóes e para fazer um apontamento chama 1-800-656-9637 desde ás 9 da manha até ás 5 da tarde.

Mais Promessas Falhadas Para a Piscina do Ironbound

Depois de uma demonstração na escadaria do edifício da Câmara Municipal no Verão passado, os residentes do Ironbound foram informados que a construção da Piscina do Ironbound começaria em Outubro. Ficaráo surpreendidos se tal não aconteceu?

"Têm havido tantas promessas falhadas sobre a construção da piscina. Esta é mais uma," disse Arnold Cohen do **Comité do Ironbound Contra Produtos Tóxicos (ICATW).**

Al Zach, engenheiro municipal, informou Fred Linhares do ICATW que os concursos seriam abertos muito brevemente.

"Se a comunidade não insistisse para que a obra seia feita, o processo seria ainda mais vagaroso," concluiu o Sr. Linhares.

Freeholders Abandonan A Newark Otra Vez

Los Freeholders del Condado de Essex ignoraron la oposición a los residentes y votaron 8 a 10 para aprovar el contrato de enviar desperdicios del Condado de Morris para ser quemados en el incinerador.

"Si tu apruebas esta decisión, tu estás rompiendo la promesa hecha a los residentes de Newark," dijo Vic De Luca, uno de los muchos residentes de **Comité de Ironbound en Contra de los Desperdicios Tóxicos (ICATW)** quien habló en la reunión del 10 de enero de 1995. "A nosotros nos dijeron que esto nunca hiba a ser una facilidad regional. Que hiba a ser para la basura del Condado de Essex solamente."

Las opiniones de los residentes parecen tener un poco de preocupación hacia los Freeholders, quienes alegan que a ellos se le "olvido" enviar al ICATW, y a otros grupos comunitarios interesados, notificar de otras reuniones anteriores de el Solid Waste Committee quienes estaban trabajando en el contrato. Una carta de 5 paginas escrita por Lisa Henricks Richardson, una abogada con el Rutgers Environmental Law Clinic, detallando a los residentes de Newark, la preocupación y haciendo preguntas, que no fueron contestadas por Stephen Edelstein, abogado por el Condado de Essex.

El contrato dice que el Essex hiba a tener 250,000 toneladas de basura al año desde el Condado de Morris. Esto añade a más cantidad de basura que el incinerador estaba supuesto a quemar cada año. Miembros de ICATW y patrocinadores criticaron el contrato porque el Condado de Essex tiene toda capacidad por si hay algun problema, y porque el Condado de Morris solo pagará $59 por tonelada, mientras Essex paga $110 por tonelada por usar el incinerador. El Condado de Morris no tiene que construir un campo de emergencia, y el Condado de Essex se unirá y pagará por combatir en corte en contra del DEPE si ellos ordenan al Condado de Morris a construir un campo de emergencia.

"No solamente nos han pagado con el contaminamiento de todos los días de este incinerador, pero tampoco estamos obteniendo nada bueno al respecto," dijo June Kruszewski. "Nosotros no cogemos nada para nuestro vecindario ha cambio. No cogemos un corte de impuestos, y además de eso los valores de nuestras propiedades y de salud son los que están pagando, las consecuencias. De hecho, estamos cogiendo menos. El Condado ha cortado ahora mismo la transportación para los ancianos, la única manera que tenían para ir de compras."

Un numero de miembros de ICATW y patrocinadores, hablaron acerca del hecho que estas facilidades estan localizadas en comunidades de immigrantes pobres.

Todos los Freeholders hablaron acerca del contrato original con American Ref-Fuel para la construcción y mantenimiento de el incinerador como "una de los peores de acuerdos que el Condado haya autorizado." Residentes de Ironbound recuerdan estar de pie en frente de la Junta de Fereholders antes que el incinerador fuera construido y presentaron bién claro argumentos acerca de lo que no estaba bién del contrato del incinerador de basura en esa tiempo. Pero los Freeholders ignoraron los residentes, y filmaron el contrato de cualquier manera.

"Si tu estás de acuerdo que el contrato con American Ref-Fuel es un contrato malo, porqué tú no hiciste algo para impedirlo?" dijo Joe Nardone, del ICATW. Un Ejecutivo del Condado, Treffinger, dijo que va a intentar renegociar el contrato original con American Ref-Fuel.

Un numero de oradores añadieron del hecho de que Ironbound era uno de los vecindarios más contaminados en el estado de New Jersey. "¿Qué tu le puedes decir a la gente que vive cerca del incinerador, dónde el mercurio y el dioxin salen del incinerador? Hemos economisado unos centavos. ¿Para que? Si salimos con un cáncer," dijo uno de los que habló.

En publico tendrá otra oportunidad de testificar hacerca del incinerador de basura en una vista con el DEPE. Para más información favor de llamar al tel: 589-4668 al ICATW.



ICC Celebra Su 25 Aniversario

Cerca de 300 amigos y partidiarios de la Corpración Comunitaria de Ironbound (Ironbound Community Corporation) atendieron los festejos por su 25 aniversario el 21 de Octubre de 1994 en el restaurante Mediterranean Manor. Muchos otros que no pudieron atender enviaron sus saludos. Aquellos que atendieron, quienes de una forma ou otra han sido parte de la Corporación, tuvieron una gala exquisita. La Corporación recibió reconocimientos honorarios de parte del Congresista Menendez, del Alcalde Sharpe James, y del Consejal Martinez.

Arriba aparece Arnold Cohen recibiendo un premio de reconocimiento por sus 21 años de trabajo con ICC. Otros quienes recibieron reconocimiento fueron: A. Zachary Yamba, presidente del Colegio del Condado de Essex (Essex County College); la hermana Cathy Daly, directora de la Oficina Catolica de Servicios Sociales' Vic De Luca, previo director ejecutivo de la ICC; Cathy McFarland, Oficial Ejecutiva de la fundación Victoria; y Elsie Ferreirinha, de la Agencia de Seguros Joel, quien ha apoyado a la ICC en diversas formas através de los años.

Podrían Las Nuevas Policías de Vivienda Significar Más Personas Sin Hogar?

Las proposiciones del Presidente Clinton en referencia a HUD (Departamento de las Viviendas) preocupan a residentes de vivienda de pocos fondos económicos. En una reciente reunión, apoyada por la Coalición de los Inquilinos de la ciudad de Newark, los oficiales de HUD dijeron que el programa de la Sección 8 será descontinuado. Los residentes recibiran bonos de vivienda o HUD "vouchers." De acuerdo a los oficailes, los bonos servirán por un periodo de dos años, despus del cual las familias podrían ponerse en una lista de espera en la ciudad en donde residen.

Dinero federal será dado a los estados los cuales se lo proporcionaran a sus ciudades en la forma de "block grants" o prestamos de bloque. Los oficiales de ciudad y estado decidirán cuanto dinero daran a la asistencia directa de welfare vs. asistencia a vivienda, vs. cualquier otro programa. Habra poco o ningun estandard federal para decidir como esto se hace.

Otro problema, ya experimentado por muchos inquilinos que reciben bonos de vivienda ("vouchers"), es quien aceptara dichos bonos. Muchos dueñós de casa no los aceptan (y no pueden ser forzados a hacerlo). Otra incognita es por cuanto seran los bonos y si seran suficientes para cubrir la renta en algunas areas.

Aquellos con preguntas deben de contactar a sus representantes congresionales ahora. Para mas información llama a Nancy Zak al 344-7210.

Asistencia Gratis

La Corporación Comunitaria de Ironbound, localizada en el 95 Fleming Ave., prestar asistencia gratis con la ayuda de contadores públicos para asistir a quellos que necesiten ayuda llenando las planillas del tax. El día sera el 25 de Febrero de este año. Debe llamar con anticipo al 344-7210 para reservar una cita.

Los Ganadores Del Proyecto De Paz

Estudiantes de diferentes escuelas han ganado cartelones en el **Concurso de Carteles de Paz**, patrocinado por el Proyecto de Educación de Ironbound.

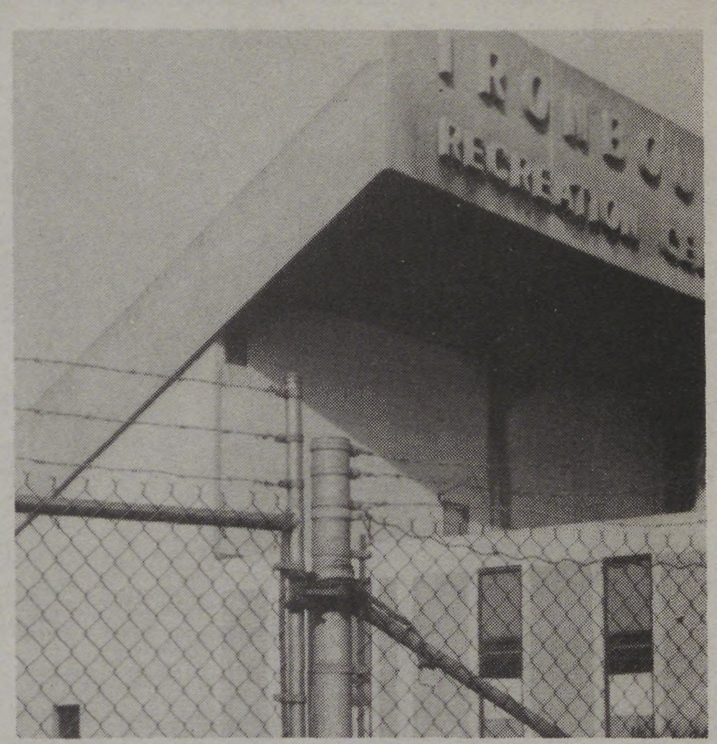
Cada otoño el Proyecto de Educación de Paz de Ironbound (IPEP) patrocina el Concurso de Carteles para animar a los jovenes a que pensen un poco más en la paz mundial.

Los ganadores de este año (demostrado en la primera pagina) fueron: Vito Irene de la escuela St. Francis Xavier; Diana Costa, Andrea Frankiewicz y Susana Pereira de la academia de St. Lucy Fillippini; Maurice Watson de la academia de St. Benedict; Lorely Cruz y Diana Dos Santso de la escuela gramática Good Counsel; Tahiyyah Muhammade de la escuela Harriet Tubman; Janine y Janice Delaney de la escuela de la Callede Oliver; Stephanie Lobato de la escuela de Wilson Ave.; Asshaboorah Staggers, Noel Muñiz y Robert Telliz del High School Good Counsel; Susan Ann Ross de la escuela de St. Casimir's; y Lenzie Wilson de la escuela Project Link.

En una cena de espaguetis, celebrada en Diciembre 3 en la Iglesia St. Stephen's, los ganadores recibieron certificados y premios en efectivo de los Dr. y Señora Bernstein "Scholarship Fund". Este fondo fue establecido en honor a la memoria del Dr. Bernstein y su esposa, quienes trabajaron en el area de Ironbound por más de 40 años, y fueron miembros activos en trabajar por la paz y la justicia social.

Los que se allegaron para participar tuvieron una deliciosa cena, y fueron inspirados por los cartelones tan bonitos que los estudiantes dibujaron. Roni Faulkner estuvo a la cabeza de un grupo de voluntarios en la cocina, y la Reposteria Texeira donó un delicioso bizcocho.

Los carteles de los ganadores estan en exibición en la biblioteca de la calle Van Buren durante Enero y Febrero.



Más Promesas Rotas Sobre La Piscina de Ironbound

Después de una manifestación en las escaleras del ayuntamiento de la ciudad (City Hall) el verano pasado, a los residentes de Ironbound se les dijo que la construcción de la piscina de Ironbound podría comenzar en Octubre. ¿Es sorpresa alguna que no haya ocurrido?

"Han habido tantas promesas rotas en respecto a dicha construcción. Esto no es mas que otra demora," dijo Arnold Cohen del **Comite en contra de los Desperdicios Tóxicos de Ironbound (ICATW).**

Al Zach de City Hall le dijo que las ofertas seran hechas de nuevo.

"Si no hubiese sido por la presión puesta por la comunidad para que se realize este trabajo hubiese mas demora aun," dijo a Fred Linhares de ICATW.

Los residentes se han manifestado cada año en protesta por la demora de la construccíon de la piscina, y la limpieza del terreno de juegos en el estadio de Ironbound, el cual esta contaminado con desperdicios tóxicos.

Ironbound Voices is a project of the Ironbound Community Information Center. We believe that all people are entitled to income, food, clothing, housing, education, and health care. We will print articles about groups taking steps to make this belief a reality. We will also publish information about your legal and social service rights. This issue was published with the help of:

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